

Amendments to the Drawings:

Pursuant to the request for translated drawings, applicant submits herewith replacement sheets 1 to 3 in which the language appearing in Figure 1 has been translated into English.

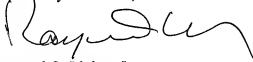
The language *B. Breve* in the legend of Figures 2 and 3 is an abbreviation for the Latin term *Bifodobacterium breve*, which is the proper name for a bacterium. This is the term that is used to identify the bacterium in all languages, including English. Therefore a translation of this term should not be required.

### REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is filed in order to enter the Sequence Listing into the application, to amend the claims to eliminate improper multiple dependent claims and to place the claims in better form for examination in accordance with United States practice. Please enter the Preliminary Amendment before calculating the filing fees.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



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